



Best Practices 2000

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

MID-ATLANTIC EDITION

February 2000

<http://www.hud.gov/bestpractices.html>

Issue No. 1

Welcome to the first issue of **Best Practices 2000 – “the Mid-Atlantic way.”** This is the first of our new monthly Best Practices Newsletters specifically catering to the Mid-Atlantic area of the United States. Just as the nationally-focused Best Practices 2000 newsletter highlights the 1999 “Best of the Best” top 100 best practices from across the country, this newsletter will share with you information about the FY 1999 “Simply the Best” award winners from

the Mid-Atlantic area. In each monthly issue you can look forward to reading about the exemplary professional practices of housing and community development practitioners across the geographical area. Last year, we had a total of 18 award recipients, so we have a lot of interesting details to share with you – from specific information on the techniques used to establish the programs or projects, to news articles and even photographs. We’ve listed all the 1999 “Best of the Best” and “Simply the Best” award



recipients from the Northwest/Alaska area in this issue. There’s also a photo gallery of the “Simply the Best” winners receiving their awards at the Departmental Best Practices and Technical Assistance Symposium in Kansas City, Missouri, this past July.

In sharing with you these examples of innovation and creativity, we hope to raise the standard for housing and community development by learning from and building upon the successes of our partners. We hope you enjoy the newsletter and look forward to sharing these wonderful models of community success with you.

Mary Ann Wilson, Acting Secretary’s Representative Mid-Atlantic

Congratulations To You, Our 1999 “Best of the Best” and 1999 “Simply The Best” Award Winners “You Make Your Community Partners Proud”

“Hats Off” To Our 1999 “Best of the Best” Award Winners

1. The Gateway Computer Center at Edgewood Terrace NN Center, Washington, DC
2. Wilmington Housing Partnership: Loan Pool, Wilmington, DE
3. Forty at Four Initiative, Crownsville, MD
4. Youth Mentoring, Anne Arundel, MD
5. Housing Integrity Program, Prince George’s County, MD
6. Baltimore Regional Housing Opportunity Program, Baltimore, MD
7. Open Space Management, Philadelphia, PA
8. Welfare-to-Work, Philadelphia, PA

9. Montgomery Townhouses, Philadelphia, PA
10. Project HOME, Philadelphia, PA
11. Fair Housing Programs, Central Virginia
12. Henrico County Division of Police/Apartment Coalition, Richmond, VA

13. If I Had A Hammer, Wise County, Virginia
14. Section 8 Compliance and Fraud Program, Fairfax County, VA

“Simply The Best” Winners

1. Perceptions, Washington DC
2. Maryland Transitional Housing Grant Program, State of Maryland
3. HUD/FHA Non Profit Monitoring Database, Philadelphia, PA
4. Automated Centralized Rolodex Communication System, Philadelphia, PA



Betty Schwartz of HUD/FHA, Former Secretary’s Representative Karen Miller, and Michael Levine of Welfare to Work.

Simply the Best!



Betty Schwart and Former Secretary's Representative Karen Miller

Perceptions!

To introduce itself and its services to the shelter community, the HUD Storefront hosted Perceptions!, an exhibit of works created by artists who have survived the violence of homelessness. All art in the exhibit was created by Washington, D.C., residents who were homeless (or formerly homeless) and lived in the area's shelter system. HUD's efforts and the exhibit received favorable local media attention, and the exhibit was featured nationally on HUD's Internet site. In addition, more than 200 people attended the exhibit during the two weeks that it ran.

Washington, DC

Maryland Transitional Housing Grant Program, State of Maryland

The Maryland Transitional Housing Grant Program provides capital assistance for the development of transitional housing and emergency shelters for homeless Marylanders to move from dependence on government programs to self-sufficiency. The programs under this grant have greatly increased the services available under the continuum of care, and links have been established to serve the neediest citizens of the State.

Baltimore, MD

HUD/FHA Nonprofit Monitoring Database, Philadelphia, PA

Nonprofit organizations can receive HUD approval to participate in a variety of FHA programs, including purchasing HUD homes at a discount, borrowing FHA mortgage funds at favorable terms, and providing downpayment funds and closing cost assistance to borrowers using FHA mortgages. To maintain a level of integrity among the nonprofit organizations and lenders approved by HUD for participation in the variety of FHA programs, a tracking system was developed by the Philadelphia Homeownership Center to ensure that all participating organizations and their programs were within accepted HUD guidelines and regulations. This tracking system allows for consistent monitoring of the organization's activities and timely recertification of their affordable housing programs across the Homeownership Center's 16-State jurisdiction.

Philadelphia, PA

Automated Centralized Rolodex Communication System

This system is designed to consolidate all of the contacts/mailling lists within HUD and the private sector into one centralized directory. The expected outcome of this system are the ability to communicate with the public quickly and efficiently.

Philadelphia, PA

More of the Best!

Yes, I would like to be placed on the Building A Better Tomorrow, HUD's Best Practices and Technical Assistance Forum newsletter mailing list. (Please print) Send the form to the Newsletter Editor.

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Fax _____

E-Mail _____



We are proud of your accomplishments in the Mid-Atlantic area, and would like to share this information so that it can be replicated, making it possible to “Build A Better Tomorrow” for all.

Please help us do this by submitting articles for inclusion in your local newsletter using the following general guidelines:

1. Submit articles only on those “Simply The Best” winners listed on the 1st page of this newsletter.
2. Your submission should include:
 - Specific details on techniques used to establish the program/project (i.e., program mission, funding sources, marketing strategy, success rate, number of participants enrolled, pitfalls, number of full-time staff employed to carry out project, use of outside consultants/subcontractors, the need the activity will fill in the community) and any other information that may be used as a blueprint for replication.
 - Photographs of the facility or activity, local or national articles written on the project, and the program write-up submitted with your Best Practices nomination application. Please note: we are unable to return photographs, so please send copies. If you take photographs, please use black and white film (however, color photographs can be accepted).
 - A Best Practices Coordinator contact person, including telephone number and e-mail address.
 - All articles must be received no later than the first of each month, although, we welcome articles in advance. Articles must be submitted through your Secretary’s Representative or Senior Community Builder via their designated Best Practices Coordinator, or to the newsletter editor at the address listed below or via e-mail.

The Building A Better Tomorrow - Best Practices and Technical Assistance Forum Staff

Felicia Polk, Director

Francine Sutton, Editor

Sandra Robinson, Design

Terri Hawkins Swann, Production

Joseph F. Smith, General Deputy
Assistant Secretary for Administration

How To Contact Us
Best Practices HELP Desk –
Just A PhoneCall Away
202/708-1992

Fax No. 202/708-3863

Newsletter Editor Telephone:
202/708-1027

Newsletter Editor email address:
Francine_Sutton@hud.gov

Web Site Address:
http://www.hud.gov/best_practices.html

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Office of Management and Planning
409 Third Street, S.W., Suite 310
Washington, DC 20024

Address Service Requested